

KIVETON PARK
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.


REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1909.

Area in Acres, exclusive of Water, 19,961·425.

Estimated Population, June 30th, 1909, 11,802.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Kiveton Park
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report on the Health of your District for the year 1909.

I am again indebted to the Surveyor for the number of houses built up to June, and also he has been good enough to estimate the population.

There were 173 new houses built, mostly at Dinnington and Wales, a few being built in several of the other parishes.

The population is estimated at 11,802, on which my calculations are based.

Anston,	1931.	Wales,	3245.
Dinnington	3930.	Harthill	1152.
St. John's	90.	Thorpe	436.
Todwick	340.	Woodsetts	248.
Firbeck	220.	Gildingwells	75.
Letwell	135.		

The number of houses inhabited in June, 2,360. During the early part of the year 1909, many houses were unoccupied in Dinnington, but since all are inhabited and more required.

The Births during the year numbered 386, of which 194 were Males and 192 Females; included in the above were 9 illegitimates.

There is a decrease of 51 in the number of births as compared with 1908.

This number is larger than the average for the previous ten years by 128. The Birth Rate for the year 1909 is 32.70 per 1,000 of the estimated population. It is much higher than the Birth Rate for England and Wales, which is 25.6, and it is higher than the large towns, which is 25.7; or the smaller towns which is 24.8; or England and Wales less the 218 towns which is 25.6.

MORTALITY.

The Death Rate is estimated, after adding the deaths which have occurred at the Aston Isolation Hospital, Sheffield Hospital, Rotherham Hospital, West Riding Lunatic Asylum, and the Workhouse Infirmary, of residents removed from your District. The corrected Death Rate I have estimated at 10.59. The average Death Rate for the last ten years was 14.36 per 1,000. The Death Rate for 1909 is the lowest of which I have any record, the highest being that of 1908, which was 16.47.

There were 118 Deaths registered in the District, 7 dying at Institutions outside the district, giving a total of 125, as compared with 181 last year.

The following are the more important deaths which have been registered:

Measles	12	Bronchitis	11
Whooping Cough	3	Pneumonia	12
Diphtheria	1	Heart Disease	8
Scarlet Fever	1	Accidents	11
Enteric Fever	1	Apoplexy	10
Phthisis	4	Convulsions	9
Cancer	7		

There were 6 uncertified deaths.

The Zymotic Death Rate is 1.60. The Death Rate from Phthisis is .33.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The total deaths of infants under 1 year are returned as 37, which gives a rate of 95 per 1,000 of the births registered. This is 3 less than the rate returned for England and Wales, and is the lowest but one that has been recorded in the Kiveton District, being 40 less than last year. Considering that the births are 51 less this year, on an increased population, this is very satisfactory. The causes of death were:

Whooping Cough	3	Convulsions Teething	9
Gastritis	2	Bronchitis	3
Premature Births	8	Pneumonia	5
Congenital Defects	1	Measles	2
Marasmus, Inanition	3	All other causes	1

No death has been returned in the District from Diarrhœa during 1909, which no doubt is to be accounted for by the wet summer. There were 15 from this cause only during the previous year. Very few, if any, of the deaths recorded can be put down to improper feeding or carelessness.

One hopes to have conditions still further improved by the entire removal of Privy Middens.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 19 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year, an increase of 2 on last year. Twelve were removed to hospital. Five cases occurred at Harthill, twelve cases at Wales, 1 at Kiveton Park, 1 at Dinnington. All these were in children under 15. The disease was by no means epidemic, most of the cases occurring singly. Only one death took place.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 9 cases of Erysipelas. mostly occurring in old people. The majority of them occurring at Harthill.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 5 cases of Diphtheria notified, as compared with 20 last year. These were evenly distributed over the District. Two were removed to hospital, one of whom died.

TYPHOID.

One case of this disease was notified at Dinnington, which unfortunately died.

MEASLES.

Measles were very prevalent at Dinnington in May and June. It was of a somewhat severe type, being responsible for ten deaths amongst young children.

WHOOPING COUGH and CHICKEN POX

Were also epidemic at Dinnington, it being found necessary to close the Infant Department of the Council Schools.

A quantity of Antitoxin has been supplied by the Council to Medical men practising in the area gratuitously for their poor patients, which has no doubt shortened the duration of Diphtheria, and very probably saved lives. The effect of this serum, if used early, is indeed remarkable. It might also be used as a preventative upon persons living in an infected house, when it renders them much less liable to contract the disease.

INSPECTION.

The District has been thoroughly inspected from time to time, and reported upon monthly by your Inspector and myself. The Workshops and Cowsheds have been looked over and their defects notified to you. The Cowsheds are very much improved. A few cases of Anthrax were notified, and were promptly dealt with by the police.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

A very important step has been taken by the Government: all Poor Law Medical Officers are now compelled to notify to the Medical Officer of Health of their District, all cases of Phthisis occurring amongst Poor Law Patients. This is a step in the right direction. It would be a great advantage to the community if Pulmonary Tuberculosis was made a notifiable disease in whatever condition of life it occurs. It would be wise if the Board of Guardians could see their way to pay for the microscopical inspection of Sputum in suspected cases, when I believe a diagnosis would be made at an earlier stage in the disease, and thus give the patient a better chance of recovery, and also prevent the spread of the disease.

An important Circular was issued by the County Council on July 26th, 1907, asking the District Authorities to assist in combating this disease, by using some of the following means:

1. By instituting voluntary Notification of Phthisis, and following up notified cases.
 - (a) By visit of enquiry as to surroundings at home and at work.
 - (b) By giving advice against spread.
 - (c) By periodical disinfection of apartments, bedding, clothing, etc.
 - (d) Prevention of overcrowding.
 - (e) Enforcement of ventilation.
 - (f) Removal of insanitary conditions.
 - (g) Disinfection after removal or death.
2. By advising needy patients in an advanced state of the disease, by some such measure as:
 - (a) Isolation in spare wards of hospitals or other suitable places.

- (b) 1.—Removal of Children.
 - 2.—Provision of extra relief or nourishment in poor cases.
 - 3.—Provision of pocket spittoons, etc., and disinfection.
 - 4.—Visitation by officials or lay visitors.
3. By increased supervision of general sanitation.
- (a) A general distribution of information to householders as to the nature of the disease, ect.
 - (b) Systematic inspection of dwellings with a view to securing better conditions of ventilation and the prevention of overcrowding.
 - (c) Closer supervision of milk and food supplies.
 - (d) Frequent disinfection of enclosed places of public resort, etc., where there have been spitting, etc.

This is a most important circular. Tubercular Disease is one of the greatest scourges our country is exposed to. It claims very many deaths annually, and it behoves us to do what little lies in our power to stamp it out if possible. During 1909 there were 4 deaths from Phthisis, as against 7 in 1908, in the district.

ANSTON.

The Population of Anston is estimated at 1931. The Birth Rate is 29 per 1,000; the Death Rate is 7·76.

The Sanitary Conditions of this village have been much improved during the year. A sewage scheme is being pushed on. Houses exist still here without spouting; and privy middens are to be found. I would recommend where possible, to replace all earth closets and privies by water closets. A water supply is required here, and I hope before many months are past, that your Council will have the Sheffield water brought to this and other parts of the District. Several houses have been erected on the Dinnington side of Anston.

DINNINGTON.

The Population of Dinnington is estimated at 3,930. The Birth Rate is 41·22. The Death Rate being 12·97. No part of the district requires a water supply more urgently than Dinnington. Many parts of the village during the past year were without water for days at a time. The sewage scheme here is rapidly approaching completion. A Refuse Destructor is also about to be erected here.

I would strongly recommend that iron doors replace the wooden ones in use in many of the ashpits. This village has been very free from Notifiable Diseases, again only four cases being notified during the year. The Lodging House is still kept in good order.

HARTHILL.

Harthill, which includes the villages of Woodall and Firvale, has a population of 1,152. The Birth Rate is 33·85. The Death Rate 9·02. A water supply is badly needed here, especially for the Woodall portion. Very few houses have been built in this village since 1901. This village will be able to participate in the Wales Sewage Scheme, which one hopes soon to see commenced.

WALES.

Wales has an estimated population of 3,245. The Birth Rate is 34·51. The Death Rate is 10·78. Many houses have been built in this part of your district during recent years. A water supply has been provided from a well between Kiveton Park and Wales village, from which a plentiful supply of good water has been obtained for Wales village, Wales Bar, and Waleswood Row. A Local Government Board Inquiry has been held with regard to a Sewage Scheme for this village during the past year, and sanctioned the loan.

WOODSETTS.

Woodsetts has a Population of 248. The Birth Rate is 24·19, and the Death Rate 12·09. The sanitary condition of this village has been very much improved during the last year.

TODWICK.

Todwick has a population of 340. It has a Birth Rate of 8·82. Death Rate of 8·82. It is very short of water. The inhabitants get their water from a well in the centre of the village, while the residents in Goose Car Lane have to fetch water three quarters of a mile.

FIRBECK AND LETWELL.

Population of the two villages is 357. Birth Rate 11·26. Death Rate 0. No cases of Infectious Disease have been notified from these villages. The parishes are entirely agricultural.

GILDINGWELLS

Has a population of 75. The smallest parish in the district. It has a Birth Rate of 13·3. A Death Rate also 13·3. This is also an agricultural village. No cases of Infectious Diseases have occurred here during the year.

ST. JOHNS

Has a population of 90. The Birth Rate is 33·3. Death Rate 0. Water is badly needed here.

THORPE

Has a population of 436. The Birth Rate is 20·64. The Death Rate 6·88. No Infectious Disease has occurred here during the year.

PRESENT SANITARY CONDITIONS.

You are all aware of the necessity of a good and plentiful supply of pure water for the district, because so much depends upon it. I hope before another year is past, that the whole district will be supplied with the Sheffield water. The initial cost may be great, but the ultimate benefit cannot be over estimated. Money spent in improving the Sanitary conditions is money saved. A great deal has been done in the district of late years. The privies are fast disappearing, their places being taken by the pan closet. One would wish to see the water closet system universal. Your Council have done good work in insisting on each house having a separate closet.

A bye-law has been suggested which will prevent people keeping swine within 50 feet of a dwelling-house. All yards should be covered with asphalt or some similar material that can be easily cleansed.

It is more economical to expend capital in keeping places healthy and comfortable, than in paying for sickness.

Thanking you for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been treated since I have been your Medical Officer.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours Obediently,

W. T. WOOD.

TABLE I.

KIVETON PARK RURAL DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and previous years.

YEAR	Popula- tion estima- ted to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Non- Resi- dents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Resi- dents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Num- ber	Rate*	Under 1 Year of age		At all Ages					Num- ber	Rate*
				Num- ber	Rate per 1000 Births Regis- tered	Num- ber	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	6680	204	30'5	24	117	102	15'3				102	15'3
1900	6670	208	31'2	25	120	92	13'7				92	13'7
1901	6680	215	32'3	33	153	91	13'7				91	13'7
1902	6780	191	28'2	14	73	91	13'7			3	94	13'7
1903	7430	245	32'0	50	204	115	15'4			4	119	16'0
1904	7760	226	29'1	33	146	110	14'2			4	114	14'7
1905	8100	248	30'6	34	137	99	12'2			6	105	13'0
1906	8785	294	33'4	46	156	116	13'2			7	123	14'0
1907	9600	319	33'2	44	138	122	12'7			4	126	13'1
1908	10989	437	39'76	59	135	174	15'83			7	181	16'47
Avrgs. for years 1899- 1908	7947	258	32'02	36	137	111	13'99			3	114	14'36
1909	11802	386	32'79	37	95	118	9'99			7	125	10'59

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

At Census of 1901.

Total population at all ages . . . 6,659

Number of Inhabited Houses . . . 1,337

Average number of persons per house . 4'9

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 19,961'425.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908,
in Kiveton Park Rural District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT							Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages--Years						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Erysipelas . . .	9			1	2	6		
Scarlet Fever . . .	19	1	7	11				12
Diphtheria . . .	5	1	1	1		2		2
Typhoid . . .	1					1		
Totals . . .	34	2	8	13	2	9		14

Isolation Hospital: Aston.

TABLE III.

Causes of and Ages at Death during the Year 1909, in the
Kiveton Park Rural District.

Deaths of Residents belonging to the District.

[illegible]

TABLE V.

Deaths during the Year in Separate Districts of the Sanitary District of Kiveton Park.

Mortality from Subjoined Causes. Distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 years of age.																																	
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards		Measles	Whooping Cough	Typhoid	Tubercular Meningitis	Scarlet Fever	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Other Tubercular Diseases	Cancer and other Malignant disease	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver	Premature Births	Heart Disease	Accidents	Apoplexy	Age	Wasting Diseases	Convulsions	Diseases of Liver	Diseases of Kidney	All other causes			
Anston.	14	4	1		1	3	5	under 5 5 upwards	1						1		2			1			1			3		2		1	3	1	
Dinnington	49	22	15	1		6	5	under 5 5 upwards	11	3	1						1		2	6		1		1			4	5			3	3	1
Firbeck and Woodsetts	4			1		1	2	under 5 5 upwards									1								1								
Harthill and Thorpe	17	4			1	3	9	under 5 5 upwards								1	1	1	2	1		1	2		2	2						1	
Wales, &c.	19	4	1	1	1	7	5	under 5 5 upwards					1			1	2	2	1	1	1	1		2	2	8	1		2			1	
Kiveton	15	4	2	3		5	1	under 5 5 upwards				2							2		1		2	2	1								
TOTAL	118	38	19	6	3	25	27	under 5 5 upwards	12	3	1	2	1		3		7	5	9	4		4	8	2	8	10	4	9	1	1	6	4	

Total Deaths in the District under 5 . 58

Total Deaths in the District 5 and upwards 60

KIVETON PARK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES, Year ending Dec. 31, 1909.

NUISANCES	Dinnington	Wales	Anston	Harthill	Todwick	Woodsetts	Gildingwells	Firbeck	Thorpe Salvin	Letwell	St. John's	Unabated	Abated	TOTAL
From Closets . . .	25	1	2						2			1	29	30
„ Ashplaces . . .	9	3	8						1				21	21
„ Privies . . .	3	2	7	22		3	2		2			4	37	41
„ Cesspools . . .	12								1				13	13
„ Refuse Accumulations	1		1	3							1		6	6
„ Private Drainage .	12	1	5	13	1	3			6		1	15	27	42
„ Overcrowding . .		4	2	2		1							9	9
„ Slaughter Houses .	1	1		2									4	4
„ Workshops . . .	1											1		1
„ Pigsties . . .	4		5			7						9	7	16
Miscellaneous . . .	2	5	1	3			1				2	5	9	14
Properties with Insufficient Closets .	2		4									4	2	6
TOTAL . . .												39	164	203
No. of Houses Disinfected	1	15	2	4	1									23
No. Removed to Hospital		9		5										14
Closets Newly Constructed		24	18	29	5		4							80
„ Re-constructed .			3	12					2					17

Vital Statistics for the Year 1909, compiled from the recently issued Report of the Registrar General and of Kiveton Park District.

1900	England and Wales	76 Great Towns	142 Smaller Towns	England and Wales <i>less</i> 218 Towns	Kiveton Park Rural District
BIRTH RATE .	25·6	25·7	24·8	25·6	32·70
DEATH RATE .	14·5	14·7	13·9	14·5	10·59
Zymotic Death Rate .	1·12	1·42	1·08	0·80	1·60
Infantile Mortality .	109	118	111	98	95

**Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.
INSPECTION.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

PREMISES	Number of	
	Inspections	Written Notices
Workshops	115	0

DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of	
	Found	Remedied
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>		
Want of Cleanliness	0	0
Other Nuisances	1	0

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the Year	Number
Bakehouses	4
Bootmakers	7
Blacksmiths	6
Dressmakers	4
Joiners	7
Tailors	8
Total Number of Workshops on Register . .	36

TABLE C. 1909.

KIVETON PARK SANITARY DISTRICT.**Water Supply—**

Any development during 1909? Yes, village of Wales and Wales Bar supplied with water.

Developments still needed? District generally.

Has public supply been continuous? Yes.

Any samples tested for lead during 1909? No.

Sewerage—

Developments during 1909: Dinnington Anston in course of construction.

Developments still needed: Wales—plans before L. G. B. District generally.

Special Sewer Ventilators: Kind in use—Upcast. Number—6. Are they satisfactory? Yes.

Any offensive Manholes? No.

Sewage Disposal—

Any complaint as to outfall works? No.

Scavenging—

Any inadequacy, and where? Satisfactory. Woodsetts improved since last year.

By-Laws and Regulations—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1909? No.

Adoptive Acts—

Any steps taken for the consideration, adoption, or application of:

(a) Notification of Births Act, 1907? No.

(b) Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907? No.

(c) Other Adoptive Acts? None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District	No. on Register	Total No. of Inspections made	General Conditions?	Legal Proceedings (if any)
Common Lodging Houses	1	1	17	Good	None
Canal Boats	0	0	0		
Slaughter Houses . . .	16	16	91	Fairly good	
Cowsheds	44	44	187	Improvement maintained	
Offensive Trades . . .	0	0			
(Please specify nature).					

Cowsheds—

Any special inspection made during 1909? Yes, periodic.

Any milk sampled tested for tubercle, and with what result? No.

Infectious Disease—

Any suspected spread by rats, dogs, cats, fowls, flies or fleas?

Isolation Hospital—

Any observation on adequacy or efficiency? Quite efficient.

Schools—

Any matter calling for special attention of School Medical Officer? No.

Midwives Act, 1902—

Are there any uncertified women attending confinements without a doctor?
Not to my knowledge.

Dwellings—

Any occupied houses unfit for habitation? None that I am aware of.
Any overcrowding of persons in houses? None known.
Any action taken under the Housing Acts? No.
Is house-to-house inspection systematically made? Yes. Are records kept?
Yes.
Any special activity in house-building? Yes, at Dinnington, Anston and Wales.
Number of Houses built during 1909, 153. General character: Good.
Do the new houses accord with By-Laws? Yes. Who deals with plans?
Surveyor.

Infantile Mortality—

What organised effort to control it? None.
Is Health Visitor appointed by S.A.? No. By other body? No.

Prevention of Consumption—

Any system of notification? Yes.
Any local treatment of Patients on sanatorium lines? Yes.
Any Sanitary Inspection of Patients' Houses? Yes. Any Disinfection of ditto? Yes.
Any Distribution of Advice? Leaflets. Any Action *re* Spitting? No.
Any Disinfection of public rooms, vehicles, ect.? No.

Nuisances—

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1908: 65. At close of 1909: 77.
Reported during 1909: 203. Abated during 1909: 191.
Total No. of Legal Notices served for abatement of Nuisances during 1909: 25.
Total number of **Summonses** or other **Legal Proceedings**: None.
No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1909: None.
No. of Closets newly constructed during 1909: 80. Kinds: 4 Privy and Pail 76.
No. of Closets reconstructed during 1909: 17. Kinds: Pail.

Meteorology—

Mean Temperature for 1909: 47·4. Rainfall: 27·83.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters?

Seizures of Unsound Food: None. Prosecutions: None.
Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts: None. Prosecutions: None.
No. of Smoke observations taken: None. Legal Notices: None. Summonses: none.

Births during 1909.

Males, 194. Females, 192. Total, 386.
Number illegitimate, included in above, 9.

Deaths during 1909.

- (1) GROSS DEATHS, *i.e.*, total actually registered in the district, without any correction, 118.
- (2) NETT DEATHS, on which the rates are calculated: Males 71, Females, 54: Total, 125. Number uncertified, included in the above, 6.

Sanitary Requirements of District and Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health—

A water supply is urgently needed for the District, and is well in hand, and will be placed before the Local Government Board at an early date.